THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BHAGEY GOBARDHAN): (a) No, Sir. NIC had not envisaged unhindred inflow of data from all corners of the country for conceptualisation of the planning process. NIC was set up primarily for creating a science and technology infrastructure for informatics including information format standardisation, software development and setting up of a Computer-communication network called NICNET linking among others the district administrations, State/UT Governments and the civilian departments of the Central Government. NIC is not primarily an information collection agency. Information stored on NICNET is mainly the responsibility of the user organisation and disseminated on the network on the auhorization of the user organisations.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) With the completion of NICNET providing computer-communication linkage upto the District level, Government's future plans envisagt a phased expansion of NICNET to the Tehsil level and subsequently to the Block level.

Industries which are using Chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) Gases

1518. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some industries in the country use Chlorofluro-carbon (CFC) gases which deplete the Ozone layer of the atmosphere;

(b) if so, what are the details of which industries and their products; and

(c) what action Government propose to take to protect the Ozone layer?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (NILAMANI ROUTRAY): (a) and (b) Cholorobuorocarbons (CFCs) are used in India in refrigeration, air-conditioning, foams, aerosols, electronics and computer industries.

(c) The Government are considering joining the Montreal Protocol on substances that deplete the ozone leyer.

Export of Defence Goods

1519. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of defence goods exported during the last three years;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to increase the export of defence goods; and

(c) if so, the efforts made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) The value of defence goods exported during the last three years is approximately Rs. 58 crores.

(b) and (c) Government are engaged in the efforts to increase the export of defence goods, such as policy and procedural liberalisations marketing efforts through our missions and by the production agencies and sales publicity measures such as participation in foreign exhibitions, exchange of delegations etc.

Environmental Clearance to Vijayawada Thermal Power Station

1520. DR. NARREDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have given environmental clearance for installation of 2 x 210 M.W. Vijayawada Thermal Power Station;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NILAMANI ROUTRAY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal was approved from environmental angle in January, 1990 subject to certain conditions. A statement enlisting the conditions is enclosed. (*See* below)

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Statement on the conditions laid for environmental clearance for the 2 X 210 MW Vijayawada Thermal Power Station.

(1) The two units (2 x 210 MW) should be provided with two independent stacks of 220 metre height.

(2) Space for flue gas desulphurisation (FGD) plant shall be provided so that the same could be installed in future, if required, from environmental angle.

(3) On-line stack monitoring equipment should be provided for measuring SO2, NOX and particulates

(4) At least 4 air quality monitoring stations should be maintained within the premises of the power station or in the low wind direction at a suitable place.

(7) Liquid effluents emanating from the different plants of the power stations should be treated to conform to the standards prescribed by A.P. Pollution Control Board.

(6) The temperature of the condenser water at point of confluence in the river should not be more than 50 Cover and above the ambient temperature of river water.

(7) Efforts should be made to conserve the water to the extent possible by way of re-cycling/reuse.

(8) No flyash/bottom ash should be disposed off in the river or forest areas.

(9) Proper ash dykes/ponds should be built and the supernatant effluent should meet the standards prescribed by A.P. Pollution Control Board.

(10) Efforts should be made to utilise the fly ash/bottom ash construction purposes to the extent possible.

Alternative Employment to the Employees of Animal Welfare Board on Shifting the Office

1521. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to shift the head office of the Animal Welfare Board of India from Madras to Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that 70 per cent of the organisations supported by the Board are situated in the Southern States and the said shifting would affect those organisations;

(c) whether the staff working in Madras would be given alternate employment at Madras itself in the event of shifting of the said office;

(d) whether the Board is going to stop publication of the journal "Animal citizen" if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether Government have asked the staff to seek voluntary retirement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) Government do not propose to shift the office of the Animal Welfare Board of India from Madras to Delhi.

(d) Chairman, Animal Welfare Board has been requested to stop publication of the journal "Animal Citizen" for the present as it is not upto the required standard.

(e) No, Sir.